

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 18, 1997

Ms. Y. Qiyamah Taylor Assistant City Attorney City of Houston P.O. Box 1562 Houston, Texas 77251-1562

OR97-0370

Dear Ms. Taylor:

You have asked whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 103907.

The City of Houston (the "city") received a request for a particular police report. You assert that the information requested, except for the "Public Release portion," is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. Section 552.108 excepts from disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime" and "[a]n internal record or notation of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that is maintained for internal use in matters relating to law enforcement or prosecution." Gov't Code § 552.108; see Holmes v. Morales, 924 S.W.2d 920 (Tex. 1996).

However, information normally found on the front page of an offense or arrest report is generally considered to be public information. See generally Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976); Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976). We assume that the information you have released is the type of information normally found on the front page of an offense report. The remaining information at issue may be withheld from disclosure.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous

determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Ruth H. Soucy

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

RHS/ch

Ref.: ID# 103907

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. Lonne Jones Frey

c/o The Cauldron 1008 Sul Ross

Houston, Texas 77006

(w/o enclosures)